

Withdrawing from Iraq before the enemy is defeated would embolden the terrorists. It would help them find new recruits to carry out even more destructive attacks on our Nation, and it would give the terrorists a new sanctuary in the heart of the Middle East, with huge oil riches to fund their ambitions. America must not allow this to happen. We are a nation that keeps its commitments to those who long for liberty and want to live in peace. We will stand with the nearly 12 million Iraqis who voted for their freedom, and we will help them fight and defeat the terrorists there so we do not have to face them here at home.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:55 a.m. on September 29 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on September 30. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 29 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. In his address, the President referred to Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

### **Statement on Senate Confirmation of Mary Peters To Be Secretary of Transportation**

*September 30, 2006*

I am pleased that the Senate swiftly confirmed Mary Peters as Secretary of Transportation.

Mary is an innovative thinker who will work with State and local leaders to confront challenges and solve problems. I look forward to working with her to reduce highway and aviation congestion, modernize our Nation's infrastructure, and increase the efficiency of travel in our country. Her leadership will enable the Department to maintain

a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system.

I congratulate Mary and her family on her confirmation and thank her for her service to our Nation.

### **Statement on Congressional Action on the "Iran Freedom Support Act"**

*September 30, 2006*

My administration is working on many fronts to address the challenges posed by the Iranian regime's pursuit of weapons of mass destruction, support for terrorism, efforts to destabilize the Middle East, and repression of the fundamental human rights of the citizens of Iran. We are engaged in intense diplomacy alongside our allies and have also undertaken financial measures to counter the actions of the Iranian regime.

I applaud Congress for demonstrating its bipartisan commitment to confronting the Iranian regime's repressive and destabilizing activities by passing the Iran Freedom Support Act. This legislation will codify U.S. sanctions on Iran while providing my administration with flexibility to tailor those sanctions in appropriate circumstances and impose sanctions upon entities that aid the Iranian regime's development of nuclear weapons.

I applaud the efforts of Chairman Richard Shelby, Ranking Member Paul Sarbanes, Rick Santorum, and Bill Nelson in the Senate and Chairman Henry Hyde, Ranking Member Tom Lantos, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, and Gary Ackerman in the House. I look forward to signing this bill into law, which will facilitate America's support for the Iranian people in their efforts to build a just, free, and peaceful society.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 6198.

**Presidential Determination on Drawdown of Commodities and Services From the Department of Defense To Support Transport of Indonesian Peacekeeping Forces to Lebanon**

*September 29, 2006*

Presidential Determination No. 2006–26

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense*

*Subject:* Presidential Determination on Drawdown of Commodities and Services from the Department of Defense to Support Transport of Indonesian Peacekeeping Forces to Lebanon

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including section 552(c)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, I hereby determine that:

- (1) as a result of an unforeseen emergency, the provision of assistance under Chapter 6 of Part II of the Act in amounts in excess of funds otherwise available for such assistance is important to the national interests of the United States; and
- (2) such unforeseen emergency requires the immediate provision of assistance under Chapter 6 of Part II of the Act.

I, therefore, direct the drawdown of up to \$2,999,000 in commodities and services from the Department of Defense to support the transportation of Indonesian forces in support of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 2.

**Memorandum on Waiving Prohibition on United States Military Assistance With Respect to Various Parties to the Rome Statute Establishing the International Criminal Court**

*September 29, 2006*

Presidential Determination No. 2006–27

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

*Subject:* Waiving Prohibition on United States Military Assistance with Respect to Various Parties to the Rome Statute Establishing the International Criminal Court

Consistent with the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including section 2007 of the American Servicemembers' Protection Act of 2002 (the "2002 Act"), title II of Public Law 107–206 (22 U.S.C. 7421 *et seq.*), I hereby:

- Determine that it is important to the national interest of the United States to waive the prohibition of section 2007(a) of the 2002 Act with respect to Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Croatia, Ecuador, Kenya, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Namibia, Niger, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Serbia, South Africa, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay with respect to military assistance provided under the International Military Education and Training program, chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 *et seq.*); and
- Waive the prohibition of section 2007(a) with respect to the military assistance described above with respect to these countries.

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 2.